(b) whether the proposed standards are also applicable to the items imported into the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Section 3 (b), (iv) of Drugs and Cosmetics Act provides for regulating Medical Devices as notified by the Government from time to time. Presently, devices like (i) Disposable Hypodermic Syringes, (ii) Disposable Hypodermic Needles, (iii) Disposable Perfusion Sets, (iv) Invitro Diagnostic Kits for HIV, HbSAg & HCV have been notified and their Standards have been prescribed which are applied even to these items imported into the country.

Mental disorders

36. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "At AIIMS, mental health takes a backseat", which appeared in the Indian Express, dated 22nd August, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons for this bad state of affairs;

(c) whether Government are aware that as per WHO report of April, 2001, mental disorders are on the rise and it has declared mental disorders as world emergency; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to upgrade, modernize and revamp the Department of Psychiatry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The Indian Express, New Delhi edition of 22nd August, 2002 (late City) has been perused. No such news items could be located.

(b) In All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, the Department of Psychiatry is performing Walk-in-Clinic where patients referred from other departments or registered as new cases are seen on

the same day. In addition to the above, the 24 hours emergency services of Psychiatric patients is available.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Upgradation of facilities within available resources is a continuous process. Moreover, the Institute has its own house survey and inspection system to monitor the performance of various areas of the hospital and their efficiency.

Illegal private nursing homes

37. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Crackdown on illegal nursing homes", which appeared in the Times of India, dated 28th August, 2002 regarding the illegal private nursing homes mushrooming in the capital;

(b) if so, the number of nursing homes found short of the norms laid down; and

(c) the kind of remedial action taken against them and whether any fresh norms have been laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Ban on gutkha products

38. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) the role his Ministry has played in retaining the ban on gutkha in the States with the ban on gutkha products being imposed in many States;